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committee for inspection by producers and handlers;

(j) To consult, cooperate, and exchange information with other potato marketing committees and other individuals or agencies in connection with all proper committee activities and objectives under this subpart; and

(k) To establish, and pay the expenses of, advisory subcommittees for the purpose of consulting with Federal, State, and other appropriate agencies with respect to the establishment of marketing research and development projects pursuant to § 947.47.

§ 947.31 Expenses and compensation.

Committee members and their respective alternates when acting on committee business shall be reimbursed for reasonable expenses necessarily incurred by them in the performance of their duties and in the exercise of their powers under this subpart. In addition, they may receive reasonable compensation at a rate recommended by the committee and approved by the Secretary.

[35 FR 10742, July 2, 1970]

§ 947.32 Districts.

(a) The following districts of the production area are hereby established as follows:

District No. 1: The counties of Crook, Deschutes, and Jefferson in the State of Oregon;

District No. 2: The counties of Klamath, Lake, Jackson, and Josephine in the State of Oregon;

District No. 3: The counties of Curry, Coos, Douglas, Lane, Lincoln, Benton, Linn, Polk, Marion, Yamhill, Tillamook, Washington, Clatsop, Columbia, Multnomah, Clackamas, and Hood River in the State of Oregon;

District No. 4: The counties of Modoc and Siskiyou in the State of California;

District No. 5: The counties of Wasco, Sherman, Gilliam, Morrow, Umatilla, Wallowa, Union, Baker, Grant, Wheeler, and Harney in the State of Oregon.

(b) The Secretary, upon the recommendation of the committee, may reestablish districts within the production area and may reapportion committee membership among the various districts: *Provided*, That in recommending any such changes in districts or representation, the committee shall

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give consideration to (1) the relative importance of new areas of production, (2) changes in the relative position of existing districts with respect to production, (3) the geographic location of areas of production as they would affect the efficiency of administering this part, and (4) other relevant factors: *Provided, further*, That there shall be no change in the total number of committee members or in the total number of districts.

[20 FR 7068, Sept. 21, 1955, as amended at 35 FR 10742, July 2, 1970]

§ 947.33 Nominations.

The Secretary may select the members of the Oregon-California Potato Committee and their respective alternates from nominations which may be made in the following manner:

(a) A meeting or meetings of producers and handlers shall be held by the committee in each district for which nominees are to be selected, not later than April 1 of each year, to designate nominees for members and alternates to the committee;

(b) At least one nominee shall be designated for each position as member and for each position as alternate member on the committee which is vacant, or which is to become vacant the following June 1;

(c) The names of nominees shall be supplied to the Secretary in such manner and form as he may prescribe, not later than May 1 of each year, or by such other date as may be specified by the Secretary;

(d) Only producers may participate in designating producer nominees and only handlers may participate in designating handler nominees. Any person who operates in more than one district or is engaged in producing and handling potatoes, shall elect the classification (i.e., producer or handler), and the district within which he desires to participate in designating nominees;

(e) Regardless of the number of districts in which a person produces or handles potatoes, each such person is entitled to cast only one vote on behalf of himself, his agents, subsidiaries, affiliates, and representatives in designating nominees for committee members and alternates. An eligible voter's privilege of casting only one vote as

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aforesaid shall be construed to permit a voter to cast one vote for each position to be filled in the district in which he elects to vote; and

(f) If nominations are not made within the time and in the manner specified in this section, the Secretary may, without regard to nominations, select the committee members and alternates on the basis of the representation provided for in this subpart.

[35 FR 10742, July 2, 1970]

§ 947.34 Vacancies.

To fill any vacancy occasioned by the failure of any person selected as a committee member or as an alternate to qualify, or in the event of the death, removal, resignation, or disqualification of any qualified member or alternate, a successor for his unexpired term may be selected by the Secretary from nominations made in the manner specified in § 947.33, or the Secretary may select such committee member or alternate from previously unselected nominees on the current nominee list from the district involved. If the names of nominees to fill any such vacancy are not made available to the Secretary within 30 days after such vacancy occurs, the Secretary may fill such vacancy without regard to nominations, which selection shall be made on the basis of the representation provided for in this subpart.

§ 947.35 Annual report.

The committee shall prepare and submit to the Secretary, within 2 months following the last day of each fiscal period, an annual report covering such fiscal period, and make a copy available to each handler and producer who requests it. This annual report shall contain at least:

(a) A complete review of the regulatory operations during the fiscal period;

(b) An appraisal of the effect of such regulatory operations upon the potato industry within the production area; and

(c) Any recommendations for changes.

[35 FR 10742, July 2, 1970]

EXPENSES AND ASSESSMENTS

§ 947.40 Expenses.

The committee is authorized to incur such expenses as the Secretary finds are reasonable and likely to be incurred by it during each fiscal period for such purposes as the Secretary may, pursuant to the provisions of this subpart, determine to be appropriate and for the maintenance and functioning of the committee. The committee shall submit to the Secretary a budget for each fiscal period, including an explanation of the items appearing therein, and a recommendation as to the rate of assessment for such fiscal period.

[35 FR 10742, July 2, 1970]

§ 947.41 Assessments.

(a) Each handler shall pay to the committee upon demand his pro rata share of the expenses authorized by the Secretary for each fiscal period. Each handler's pro rata share shall be the rate of assessment per hundredweight fixed by the Secretary times the quantity of potatoes which he handles as the first handler thereof. At any time during or after a fiscal period, the Secretary may increase the rate of assessment as necessary to cover authorized expenses. The payment of expenses for the maintenance and functioning of the committee may be required during periods when no regulations are in effect. If a handler does not pay his assessment within the time prescribed by the committee, the assessment may be increased by a late payment charge or an interest charge, at rates prescribed by the committee with the approval of the Secretary.

(b) *Excess funds.* At the end of a fiscal period, funds in excess of the year's expenses shall be placed in an operating reserve not to exceed approximately one fiscal period's operational expenses or such lower limits as the committee, with the approval of the Secretary, may establish. Funds in such reserve shall be available for use by the committee for expenses authorized pursuant to § 947.40. Funds in excess of those placed in the operating reserve shall be refunded to handlers. Each handler's share of such excess shall be the